

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: ILO PLAB
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE

REF: GENEVA 4594

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SECOND REPEAT SECOND DRAFT OF DIRECTOR
GENERAL'S LETTER (ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE) TO PRESIDENT OF ILC,
WHICH REFTEL STATED IN PARA TWO WOULD BE POUCHED.

2. GEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

AS IN PAST YEARS, PART II OF MY REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE IS
DEVOTED TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ILO DURING THE PRECEDING YEAR.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE AND
THE GOVERNING BODY IN 1962, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT TO
THE CONFERENCE ALSO INCLUDES A REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OVER THE PREVIOUS FIVE
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YEARS. THE SECOND CHAPTER OF PART II OF MY REPORT PROVIDES
THIS INFORMATION.

TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE, I BELIEVE IT
WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING CLARIFICATIONS
COMPLEMENTARY TO MY REPORT:

FIRST, I CONFIRM THAT I WILL AGAIN SUBMIT, BOTH IN 1978 AND IN 1979, IN ACCORDANCE WITH MY OBLIGATION, A REPORT ON THE STEPS TAKEN TO GIVE EFFECT TO ALL RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN THE PRECEDING FIVE YEARS AND I WILL REPORT ON THE STEPS TAKEN TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN 1974 CONCERNING "THE POLICY OF DISCRIMINATION, RACISM AND VIOLATION OF TRADE UNION FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS PRACTISED BY THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES IN PALESTINE AND IN THE OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES".

SECOND, PART II OF MY REPORT THIS YEAR REFERS TO MY RECOMMENDATION THAT THE GOVERNING BODY ACKNOWLEDGE THE INABILITY OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO PROCEED FURTHER IN THE MATTER WITHOUT RECOURSE TO EXISTING ILO PROCEDURES. THE GOVERNING BODY, IN MARCH 1977, ENDORSED THIS RECOMMENDATION, AND DECIDED THAT THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL SHOULD COMPLETE HIS REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY.

THIRD, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF ILO PROCEDURES CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO WORK AND FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION, THE CONFERENCE NOW HAS BEFORE IT, THROUGH ITS COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS (REPORT III, PART R(A)). THIS REPORT CONTAINS ON PAGE 230 OF THE ENGLISH TEXT, COMMENTS ON THE APPLICATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL OF CONVENTION 111 ON DISCRIMINATION, WHICH ISRAEL HAS RATIFIED.

THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS HAS REQUESTED THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO FURNISH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION COVERING A WHOLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RANGE OF QUESTIONS RELATING TO CONDITIONS OF WORK. THESE QUESTIONS WERE ALSO RAISED IN PARAGRAPH 13 OF MY REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY IN MARCH 1976 ON THE CONDITION OF WORKERS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAS NOW SENT A COMMUNICATION WHICH I WILL BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

FOURTH, WITHOUT WISHING IN ANY WAY TO PREJUDGE CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, I WILL, AS IS THE DUTY OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, SCRUPULOUSLY ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING ANY CONCLUSIONS WHICH THE CONFERENCE MIGHT ARRIVE AT RELATIVE TO THIS SUBJECT. I SHALL UTILISE FOR THIS PURPOSE ALL AVAILABLE ILO METHODS AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING VISITS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, TO HELP ENSURE THAT THE CONDITION OF THE WORKERS CONCERNED - WHICH IS OUR PRIMARY CONCERN - IS IN KEEPING WITH THE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ILO.

I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD KINDLY BRING THE CONTENTS

OF THIS LETTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONFERENCE.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,

FRANCIS BLANCHARD
SECRETARY-GENERAL

END TEXT. SORENSON

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